

TRIBUTE TO BERNICE A.
PETERSON

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2001

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bernice A. Peterson. Bernice's retirement as Recorder in Sonoma County is an appropriate opportunity to honor her for her 24 years of successful leadership in this position. Bernice was the first woman to hold the Recorder's position and is the most senior department head in the County. She will be the last Recorder in the State of California; this office will now be combined with another county office as is the case around the State.

Ms. Peterson began working for Sonoma county in 1973 and was appointed to serve as Recorder in 1977. She won election for six additional terms. During that time she has transformed the Recorder's Office into a state of the art electronic operation with a staff dedicated to friendly and efficient public service. Ms. Peterson was the guiding force behind the establishment of the County's records management division, and her work has preserved and restored valuable historical records of Sonoma's illustrious past.

A nationally recognized leader in a variety of organizations that promote records manage-

ment and preservation, Ms. Peterson's skills have had an impact beyond Sonoma county. Her community service involvement includes the Soroptomists Club, League of Women Voters, United Way, Sonoma County Museum, Salvation Army Advisory Board, and Women's History Month projects. Mr. Speaker, Bernice Peterson's career is a model of the importance of commitment and high quality work performed with good humor and skill for the benefit of many.

IN MEMORY OF ISTVAN
ESZTERHAS

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 8, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. Istvan "Stephen" Eszterhas, a renowned Hungarian novelist, retired editor, and friend.

Mr. Eszterhas, originally from the Kispest section of Budapest, began his writing career very early in life. At age 16 he was already a published author and by age 30 he had written his first novel, a memoir about growing up during World War II. He penned six more books before coming to the United States in 1950. His works focused on his ethnicity and cultural

heritage, and have been internationally recognized. In 1958 his manuscript "Rest Easy, Comrade," won a literary contest sponsored by Rome's Anonimus Foundation. Mr. Eszterhas' last work was a collection of poetry that was published in 1998. His beautifully-crafted compilation of poems has touched thousands of people.

Eszterhas, in addition to holding a law degree from the University of Budapest, was editor of Catholic Hungarians' Sunday when it was the only Hungarian newspaper in the country. He retired in 1978, but never stopped writing.

His deep faith and commitment to his heritage led him to the Danubian Cultural Institute and St. Stephen's Dramatic Club. Also, he served selflessly as the national president of the Committee for Hungarian Liberation. His involvement and dedication to the world community will be remembered by many people for years to come.

Mr. Eszterhas is survived by his son, Joe, and six grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the memory of a wonderful, caring man. Mr. Eszterhas served Cleveland and his country in many capacities, and was an inspiration to many. He has touched so many of us, and will be greatly missed.